Maintenance runs college

The maintenance department is busy day and night keeping the college and its machinery running smoothly. See Spotlight page 6.

Radio Shack—oooh!

Niagara college has purchased 40 new Radio Shack computers for the School of Business. See page 7.

Equus—a success!

Talents of the Theatre Centre shine through in shocking play. See page 9.

Hockey team eyes 2nd place

The Hockey Knights are on the verge of clinching second place. See page 10.

NIAGARA NEWS

Cloudy with flurries

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Feb. 20, 1984

May bring jobs for NC grads

A collaboration with the Ontario Centre for Automotive Parts Technology may possibly bring employment to Niagara College graduates, Foster Zanutto, director of information services, said.

The Ontario-wide project to be designed by Niagara College will "establish a library information system to serve the needs of the automotive parts industry," George Repar, director of planning and development said.

The College is working on a project with the centre to design an information storage, retrieval, dissemination system for the courses, workshops, seminar offerings throughout Ontario.

The college will gain experience in communications and data retrieval.

"If it is successful, this project will give the college visibility on a provincial basis," Mr. Zanutto said. "If any industry requires information, they will contact the centre which may refer them to us."

Guidelines for user access and kind of software will have to be determined. The college is exploring a number of key topics of interest to the industry such as statistical process control and quality circles.

Splash!!!

Puddles like this can be a pedestrian's nightmare, splashing water on anyone passing by at the wrong time. Last week's thaw accompanied by continuous drizzle has caused puddles like this to form in every low spot in the Niagara region. This picture was taken a mile north of the college on First Avenue where a section of the road was completely covered forcing cars to stream through the two-foot-deep puddle. The weatherman has predicted colder weather for today that should transform the puddles into ice.

(Photo by Russ Duhaime)

Deterrent a myth: Alcock

By LINDA MACLEOD
Staff Writer

A paradigm shift is necessary to achieve world peace and international law, and middle power initiatives must join together to create regions where there will be no nuclear weapons, Dr. Norman Alcock said last Thursday.

Dr. Alcock, author and president of the World Federalists of Canada, lectured at the college on institutions of peace versus the instruments of war.

Dr. Alcock said a nuclear war cannot be fought because it will ruin the world. If a country drops 100 bombs on 100 major cities, it will create soot and dirt to cause a winter for two years. Then there will be no sunshine because of nuclear fallout and every person would starve because food will not be able to grow.

Bombs will not be used. "You can't threaten a person over and over," he said. "The threat isn't going to have any validity."

DETERRENT 'NONSENSE'

Both superpowers threaten to use bombs against each other, and engage in the arms race. The superpowers are trying to scare each other off by deterring each other. A deterrent is "a myth; it's nonsense," Dr. Alcock said.

The superpowers are ready to make the first strike. They are "ready to enact that deadly moment."

"Hope lies in the dynamics of history. We don't change gradually but we change by shift." A paradigm shift will "go by discreet sudden jumps," Dr. Alcock said. "If you look at the facts, they stare you in the face."

See 'Alcock' page 12

Poet enjoys performing

Award-winning Canadian poet Gwendolyn MacEwen will be reading poetry at Niagara College March 7.

The winner of the Governor-General's Award and the A.J.M. Smith Poetry Award will be in S211 at 1 p.m.

"I think the best poets/readers are those who thoroughly enjoy what they're doing, even to the extent of hamming it up a bit," she told a magazine recently.

Her writings include poetry, fiction, drama for radio/TV and theatre, juvenile fiction and a travel book. Her work has appeared in Canadian literary publications and is represented in most Canadian anthologies. She has done translations from the contemporary Greek poet, Yannis Ritsos and is working on a novel and a stage play.

The Shadow-Maker won her the Governor-General's Award, 1970. In her latest book written in the first person, she has assumed the persona of Lawrence of Arabia.

Program helps business, unemployed

By JANE STIRLING
Staff Writer

A joint Niagara College-federal government program which assists local businesses in hiring trainees for specific positions is enjoying phenomenal success, Eugene Gillies, manager of General Industrial Training (GIT), said.

"We have employers coming back saying they couldn't have hired these people without the help from the federal government," he said.

The GIT program, which started in June, 1983, is a continuation of the Canada Manpower Industrial Training Program (CMITP).

Located at the Welland Vale campus in St. Catharines, the GIT program provides funding for the employers, sets up training schedules and monitors their success.

If an employer has a particular job he needs filled, he goes to the Canada Employment Centre (CEC) which supplies the funding and the manpower. The CEC asks Niagara College to design a training program.

The GIT consultants at the college visit the employer to determine his requirements, design a suitable program and do the evaluation. It takes the consultants about nine hours to develop a program.

ADAPT TO COMPANY

"Each employer wants his employees trained a certain way," Dave Carpenter, GIT training consultant, said. "We tailor the programs to company philosophy and specific company needs."

By January, 1983, 184 CMITP programs (similar to GIT) had been developed. At the same time this year, 302 GIT programs had been processed.

The 184 per cent increase in activity can be attributed to the unempoyment level in the region and the fact that more companies are hearing about the GIT program, Dave said.

"We have a backlog of requests," Mr. Gillies said. Four members have been added to the staff this year: John Muto, Duncan MacDuff, Al Vaughan and Ed Herrington. Each consultant will process about 200 programs a year.

The programs designed through the GIT initiative have three phases--theory, demonstration and on-the-job practice.

TRAIN 1,000 HOURS

The 16 to 25 weeks or 1,000 hours of training take place on the employer's premises. Most GIT programs last less than a year.

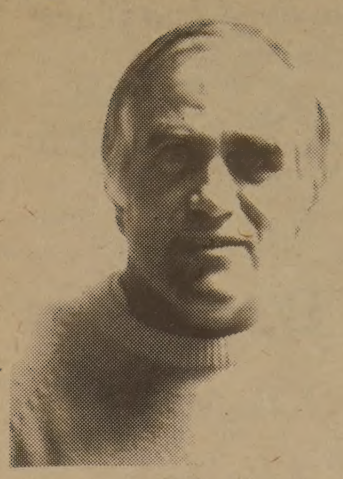
An employer can get $4,000 to $5,000 per trainee from the federal government. "It's a good program for employers who need extra people but can't afford them," Dave said.

There are more small businesses using the GIT program but even some of the larger companies such as Ontario Paper in Thorold are taking advantage of the opportunity, Mr. Gillies said.

As well as tailoring the program to fit the needs of the employer, the consultants must take into account the different categories of people who will be filling the job — the handicapped, those on welfare, those in non-traditional occupations, native people, the unemployed, non-skilled person, those who need skill upgrading and those whose employment is threatened.

It's great to see people get off the unemployed rolls," Dave said. "We just wish more employers knew about and would use the program." Some companies in the area have trained all their employees through the GIT program and consequently, have been able to expand their business.

The jobs that the consultants design run the gamut from machine operators to systems analysts to weavers.



JAMES WELLER

ANNA FERRARO

HENRY VANDELAAR

FLORENCE ROMANELLI

LUIGI FERRUSI

Roving Reporter

Winter break

What are you going to be doing?

By RENATA DINNOCENZO and PAULINE KING
Staff Writers

Whether it be the sunny beaches of Florida or the glistening ski slopes of Switzerland, the world is open to a week of exploration as winter break draws near. But Roving Reporter found most students are opting for a week of partying and/or rest here in "sunny" Niagara region.

What are you going to be doing during the winter break?

John Sciarra, 20, second-year mechanical design: I'm going to Toronto but I don't have plans yet for the rest of the week.

Florence Ronanelli, 19, first-year accounting: I'm going shopping with Tina and probably be working at Blue Water Currency Exchange.

Tina Fiorucci, 18, first-year accounting: I'm going shopping, job hunting and sleeping in.

Paul Warwick, 25, first-year data processing: I'm not doing anything actually. I'll be working at the gas bar. I'd like to be skiing but I can't afford it this year.

Jay Krikorian, 20, second-year sales and merchandising: I might fly down to Florida last minute or go to Toronto and just visit friends.

Ivar Noren, chairman of development and special programs: I'll be here (at the college) working all week. I'd rather go north skiing.

Luigi Ferrusi, 18, first-year manufacturing engineering technician: I don't know yet. probably go out with some friends — a straight week of partying.

James Weller, psychology instructor: I'm going to stay here in school and write some tests so I can flunk all my students so there'll be room for the rest of us in the parking lot.

Domenic Vescio, 20, second-year general college: I'm going to N.Y. — a fascinating city. I've never been there before and would like to see it. Hopefully, I'll be going with someone else; I don't like to go alone.

Sue Marczi, 18, first-year library technician: Partying, I guess, and spending time with my boyfriend. I was going to go to Florida but have no money.

Anna Ferraro, 18, first-year accounting: Hopefully, I'll be going to Toronto to spend some time with my sister. And I'll be going shopping and just relaxing.

Henry Vandelaar, 21, third-year data processing: Hopefully I'll be going to Fort Lauderdale. We're driving. It's just a matter of going. Last minute arrangements. We just decided to go. I'm taking a loan out of the bank. It's my last chance to go with all the college students. Once you're working, you can't go.

Stolen purse returned;

Mrs. Lucas says thanks

A stolen purse has been returned, Elvira Lucas, coordinator of the educational resources technician program, said.

After returning to her office following a number of meetings and classes on Feb. 3, Mrs. Lucas found her purse missing. The purse was returned, and Mrs. Lucas found some money missing. However, all of her personal documents were there. "I was happy for that, because they (the documents) were important to me," she said.

"I would really like to thank the person who turned it in," she said. She does not know who it was, but would like the person to drop by her office and be thanked in person.

Baby boy arrives early;

Vigeant to return April 9

Nicole Vigeant may have planned her pregnancy leave for Friday, Feb. 10, and her doctor may have agreed with her, but her baby had the final say.

Mme Vigeant, administrator of French Languages Services, had a boy on Feb. 9 at 1:19 p.m. Although the doctor predicted a Valentine's Day arrival, the five-pound, nine-ounce baby made an early arrival.

Daniel Vigeant James is Mme Vigeant's first child but she said, "It was so easy, I plan to have a second child."

However, she is a little frightened on doing a good job in raising her son. "It seems easier to run a department than it is in taking care of a child."

Mme Vigeant is doing well and she was expected to leave Welland General Hospital last Thursday.

Mme Vigeant is expected to return to her duties in Hennepin Hall on April 9.

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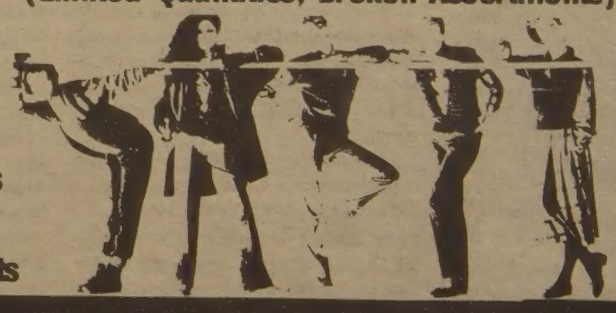

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3rd PAGE

Fully supports centre, McCardell foresees two major problems

By SUE KMITA
Staff Writer

Dr. Nora McCardell, executive director of educational and student services, fully supports having a student centre at Niagara; however, there are two problems.

"One is the availability of money, and the other is whether the province will permit a student centre of this nature to be built at this time because of the amount of money tied into it," she said.

The Student Administrative Council (SAC) has been studying the possibility of having a student centre built. Proposed plans are on display and questionnaires have been distributed. Student activity fees might be increased to help subsidize the costs.

Dr. McCardell suggested that due to financial limitations, the Black Walnut Building be renovated in the future when class enrolment is down. "The colleges themselves don't have the money because they operate on annual grants."

"In time, it may be more feasible to turn over existing space if the student enrolment falls," she said.

As for the student centre being self supporting, Dr. McCardell said that over the past years, SAC has lost money on pubs and last year, the council broke even. This year's SAC will make a bit of a profit, she said.

When the college was built, Dr. McCardell said, the architect probably allocated a certain amount of space to students, but "times have changed."

"I am very, very supportive of the idea of having a student centre and since I came to this college and saw it, I have hoped to obtain more student space."

She said college lounges such as the second floor lounge in the Simcoe building are not the same as having a congregated set of rooms.

Dr. McCardell said she hoped that when SAC is ready to make its presentation of the student centre to the administration, "I can assist in what they are trying to do."

International Dinner

Dining round the world — without leaving the Niagara peninsula; this is the rare treat the Hotel Club, Rainbow Centre campus, will provide in April.

The International Dinner, to be held at the Sheraton Foxhead Inn, Niagara Falls, April 7, will have a six-course menu of dishes from around the world.

The menu includes hot and cold hors d'oeuvres; soup solferino; gnocchi parisienne; a main course of chicken applejack, broccoli, water chestnuts and pommes biarritz; with Black Forest cake for dessert. The chef is Tom McMurchy and the sous chef, Bruce Kellogg.

Tickets at $15 each may be bought from the college office at 354-9294; or call, after 4 p.m., Myra Hayward, public relations, 356-8334; William Spaan, co-ordinator, 354-3490; Rick Gibbs, assistant co-ordinator, 356-1851; and Rose Kellner, public relations, 354-7277.

The dinner and dance will be held in the penthouse suite with cocktails at 6 p.m. and dinner at seven o'clock.

The Tony Diodati Orchestra will provide the music for dancing starting at 9 p.m.

Thick as pea soup!

The Simcoe Building could hardly be recognized last Wednesday morning by students because of poor visibility. A thick, dense fog drifted in and blanketed the region which made driving hazardous for college commuters.

(Photo by Sue Greco)

Girl's kidney ailment does not stop her

By ALETHA JONES
Staff Writer

Like hundreds of other college girls she races to and from classes, clutching her books under her arm, but the beautiful red-head with the disarming smile has another challenge besides the challenge of college life.

For Tracy McGregor has glomerulonephrosis, a kidney ailment, and has to go on a dialysis machine four times a day. With Continuing Ambulatory Peritoneum Dialysis (CAPD) she can attend school and still have the necessary treatment.

In the first year of a two-year computer programming course at Niagara College, Tracy, who lives in St. Catharines with her parents and sister, Sherry, attends classes four days a week; once each day she goes to the health unit at the college to undergo dialysis.

"At first I was a bit shy about it," Tracy said smiling, "but then it got out through my friends that I had this and now I don't mind."

Modern methods of treating this ailment make her life easier. Before this type of treatment was available, kidney patients had to be checked into hospital where they were hooked up to a large dialysis machine to have their kidneys cleaned. Tracy gets her equipment and materials from the dialysis unit at the Hotel Dieu hospital in St. Catharines.

Equipment for a CAPD treatment consists of a prep kit, containing gauze, tape, and scrub material, a plastic bag with special filtering fluid and a tripod-like contraption which can be folded, on which to hang the bag while dialysis is being given. Tracy does the bag change, which takes about 15 to 20 minutes, herself, but anyone can be trained to do it.

"You get burned out sometimes and just don't want to do it yourself," she said. Once Tracy was burned out for two weeks and her parents did the bag change every day.

Tracy became sick when she was about nine. She had her first transplant done in September of 1978. It lasted for about 2½ years. In September, 1982, she had another but it did not last.

"I don't have the time now," she said. "I have to finish this course first."

Tracy has been offered a job with patients who have kidney ailments like hers, and she may come back to Niagara College to take a course to prepare her for this work.

"If people with kidney problems see someone else who is coping with it, then it will make them feel better about it," she said.

CEC offers new program

A Canada Employment Centre (CEC) plan to help students find employment in their related field of study will hold mass registration Tuesday and Thursday (Feb. 21 and 23) from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Tecumseh Rotunda near the mini-cafeteria.

Lorraine Rivet, supervisor of the CEC for students, said that Career Access is open to secondary and post-secondary students who will be returning to school in the fall.

The centre is now visiting prospective employers including big companies, lawyers and accountants. Any private sector employer or non-profit organization may also sponsor a student, she said. The dead line for the company to register with the centre is March 9.

The federal government will pay 50 per cent of the wages up to $3 per hour, 40 hours per week. The employer will pay the remaining half; this is different from last year when Career Access was an internship and the government paid 100 per cent of the salaries.

Certificate program

Meets part-time student needs

Niagara College's School of Business has been "catering to the people" for many years, Ivar Noren, chairman of development and special programs, said.

The school offers five certificate programs designed to meet the needs of the part-time students from businesses around the peninsula. Programs include: Accounting for Managerial Decisions, Computer System and Management, Industrial Supervision and Controls, Management of Human Resources and Secretarial Skills.

"The programs are oriented towards professional skills," Mr. Noren said. "The reason behind that is students already have the business and life experience which the typical high school graduate doesn't have."

The programs consist of six to 12 individual credit courses — about 60 courses every term — specifically selected to give participants comprehensive training in a particular area of specialty. Courses such as English and general electives usually found in day-time programs are deleted.

WORK RECOGNIZED

Exemptions are granted to those with work experience. Mr. Noren said the students must say what course they are "challenging" and then "document" what they have done.

They are then interviewed by the course co-ordinator who will "assess the validity of the claim made by the student and the documentation that has also been made."

Part-time students come to school once a week — Monday to Thursday — for three hours.

"It's very demanding since they all have family responsibilities and community interests and are much older than the general student," Mr. Noren said.

TAKES LONGER

The program's only drawback is it takes longer to get a college certificate. There are between 1,000 and 1,200 students who take the required two courses a term.

Those who are "highly motivated" will graduate in three years, while others will take five, Mr. Noren said. In all, two dozen students have graduated over the years since 1975.

Courses are offered at the Welland Campus; the Resource Centre for Skill Development, Welland Vale in St. Catharines; and at the Rainbow Hotel Centre in Niagara Falls. The fee is $1 an hour or $42 for a term

For the last two years an incentive for part-time students has been the Douglas L. Finch scholarship. The $100 scholarship is awarded annually to the graduating student who attains the highest academic average in any of the five certificate programs available.

Mr. Finch, chairman and originator of the programs, established the scholarship with extra money he received from his retirement fund.

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The Niagara News is a practical lab for the Journalism-Print program, covering the college community and other areas of interest. Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the management of the Niagara News nor the administration of Niagara College of Applied Arts and Technology

The Niagara News welcomes letters from its readers on all subjects. The News reserves the right to edit copy to length; letters should not be more than about 250 words. Pennames may be used but the writer must be identified by name and program to the editor.

NIAGARA

EDITORIALS

Get involved

Judging by the amount of grumbling heard in the corridors and in the cafeteria, students have a lot of gripes on a variety of subjects. Some of the gripes about having nothing to do during the long spares between classes are not valid. These apathetic people should look at the bulletin boards and see the number of events scheduled for their amusement, events which have had to be cancelled because of lack of participation.

This year's Winter Carnival has been cancelled because of lack of participants in previous years. A bum contest that was to be held in January had to be cancelled because there were no entrants.

A Student Administrative Council (SAC) questionnaire asking students, faculty and administration for their opinion on a student centre had elicited 113 responses at press time last week. Two of these were from instructors and there were none from administration.

There is little attendance by our students at the Theatre Centre and few spectators at sports events.

These events are put on for your benefit and are well advertised, but it seems student apathy is so pronounced that no one bothers to read the notices on the bulletin boards.

Except for a few dependable regulars, there has been no response to the letters to the editor column, or to the tax tips column of the Niagara News. Let's get some feedback on how you feel about college life. If you have a gripe, why not write to the Curses editor and air your beef?

Letters, letters, we like letters. Complain, commend or condemn, but write. And take part in some of the scheduled events. Who knows, it could be fun.

Aletha Jones

Distorted view

A few things to keep in mind if you are venturing into the far reaches of the United States on your spring holiday.

For instance, you may be shocked to find that many Americans know little or nothing about us. While this may be a bit of an exaggeration, they may enquire whether you have your domicile in an igloo. Or they may well be surprised to discover you are not wearing woodsman jackets with tuques a la Doug and Bob Mackenzie or Yukon Jack.

Some will recognize you,however; they have been trained to spot an "eh" or "you know" with alert regularity. Ignore these insensitive quips and remember Canada is every bit as good as the States — if not better.

We eat the same food, read the same books, listen to the same music, watch the same TV shows, and tell the same jokes. What then sets us apart in their eyes?

Maybe it's our beer, our premium brews which outdo any feeble mimicry from across the border.

Maybe it's the fact that we do not allow crime to run rampant through our city streets like cars which have hit Buffalo potholes.

Try a little test. Walk up to an unswerving American patriot who may be boasting a little about his country and, unCanadian though it may be, boast a little yourself. Ask him how the United States Olympic team fared in hockey against the Canadians. Ask him how Ken Taylor, the Canadian ambassador in Tehran, could rescue six American hostages from Iran.

These facts may leave some of the most zealous American patriots a little embarrassed, even red-faced. Show them that Americans do not have all the answers to the problems which face mankind, and offer them a few Canadian viewpoints.

Don Ross

In Other Words

Elections nearing, meeting tomorrow

Dear Editor:

Working on the 1983-84 Student Administrative Council has been a challenging and rewarding experience.

With elections just around the corner, I would like to take this opportunity to stress the importance of being on student government. It is a chance to help improve student life — not only academically but socially. SAC is a vehicle through which students can suggest ideas and improvements that will enhance the college atmosphere and promote a sense of community.

Feb. 21 is approaching at a rapid pace. If you think you have the qualities and desire to be a part of student government, now is your chance. An election packet will be handed out at the meeting outlining job descriptions and campaigning rules for the March 19 and 20 elections.

I'm sure the next student government will experience the same satisfaction that we have experienced.

Ask not what your college can do for you, but what you can do for your college.

Denis Noel
SAC president

Great job, Jane!

Dear Editor

Jane Stirling, the reporter covering the Welland Vale Campus, has obtained a full time position and will be leaving the staff of the Niagara News.

Jane did an excellent job in reporting the activities of this campus and her enthusiasm, cheerfulness and warmth will be missed.

Best wishes in all of your endeavors, Jane.

Barbara Fonfara
Welland Vale Campus

Appreciates sympathy

Dear Editor:

The weeks following the sudden deaths of my family members have been difficult and at times almost unbearable. However, the support of the college community — the president, administrators, my colleagues, staff, and students — has been overwhelming and a source of strength to encourage us to go on when going on seemed impossible.

My mother, my sister-in-law Alison and young niece Jessica will be deeply missed. However, I am pleased to report that my brother Peter and my father are recovering in hospital. Peter will be released to our care soon. My father, who suffered a massive stroke, faces a long term stay in hospital.

Thank you for your support and caring. The prayers, gifts, flowers, letters and cards meant a great deal. I hope to be back with you soon.

Erika Church

Frenchship draw nos.

The winning tickets for the Frenchship Club draws were announced to the Niagara News last Thursday. Ticket number 263405 won the care package and ticket number 218 won the dinner for two and two roses. Mel Tatone held ticket number 218 and the other winner is yet to be declared.

The tickets were drawn by two third-year business administration students, Dave Gill and Tony Gazzellone.

SPECTRUM

Medicine / Psychology

Tape-worms, drunkenness

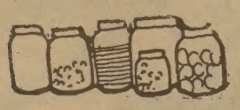
Old tyme elixirs hard to take

By JUDY MCEWEN
Staff Writer

Beauty treatments, health-care tonics and first-aid products seldom do more than keep the GNP in the pink. We sometimes harken back to a simpler time when home remedies were concocted for warts, wrinkles and colds.

Twentieth century sufferers wanting to know about the forerunners of Contac-C and Compound-W should read the Every-Day Cookbook, published in 1892 or 70BO (before OHIP).

Written by Miss E. Neil, it is more than just a cookbook. Besides its collection of every day recipes — roast prairie chicken, corn mush and Yarmouth bloaters — the book has a miscellaneous section which covers everything from boil removal to the Quinine Cure for Drunkenness.



Victims of tape worms, dog bite or lightning strike can read, but probably not heed, Miss Neil's matter-of-fact advice.

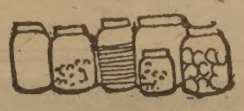
For starters, she recommends "onion gruel" for a cold. This is easily made from sliced onions boiled in milk with a little oatmeal and salt added. "Sup rapidly and (if you can keep it down) go to bed."

Miss Neil also suggests: "A flannel dipped in boiling water and sprinkled with turpentine, laid on the chest will relieve the most severe cold or hoarseness." She does not discuss the effects of boiling water and turpentine on the skin.

How about this cure for a sore throat? Simmer slices of salt pork in vinegar then apply, hot, to the throat...

To "destroy warts," Miss Neil advises using something called lunar caustic "applied carefully." Mabe it also destroyed skin, flesh and bone.

The skin of a boiled egg, moistened with water and applied to a boil, "will draw off matter and relieve soreness."



Melt and stir together one ounce of white wax, two ounces of strained honey and two ounces of lily-bulb juice. This "will remove wrinkles," she says. Mary Kay, eat your heart out.

Before we ever had Band-aids, brown butcher paper was suggested to bind a cut. Or you could also stop bleeding by simply clapping a handful of flour on the wound.

Miss Neil has several suggestions to stop nose bleeds, but the simplest and also most interesting is this: "A key, suddenly dropped down the back between the skin and clothes, will often immediately arrest a copious bleeding." A key?

Poor Elizabeth Taylor spent two days in hospital after choking on a piece of meat. According to the Every-Day Cookbook, someone should have either poked the food down with a finger; removed it with a hairpin, straightened then hooked at the end, or just thumped her hard on the back a few times.

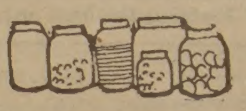
Tape-worms should be removed thus: Fast all day then at 8 p.m. take one-third part of 200 minced pumpkin seeds. At nine take another third; at 10 the remainder and follow it all at 11 p.m. with a strong dose of castor oil. (The remedy for diarrhea is on page 271.)

A simple concoction to remove "vermin in the hair" can be made by mixing one ounce each of cevadilla, staves-acres, panby seed and tobacco. Rubbed into the hair roots it will kill any vermin — and your chances for close dancing.

Either obesity was not a problem in 1892 or it was a sign of prosperity but there are no reducing diets in Miss Neil's book. She did, however, devote a paragraph to "lean-ness." Besides high-carbohydrate foods, water and exercise, she cryptically advises skinnies to "cultivate jolly people and bathe daily."

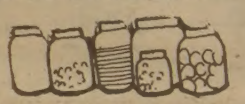
Miss Neil jumps from simple problems to heavy-weights with aplomb. To revive a person struck by lightning, she wrote: "Shower with cold water for two hours; if patient does not show signs of life, put salt in the water and continue to shower for another two hours."

While today's treatment of rabies seems barbaric, anyone bitten by a dog "suspected of madness" would have been told by Miss Neil to have his wound thoroughly burned out "with a red-hot iron or lunar caustic for fully eight seconds." Of course the burned-out area turns black, she adds. Of course.



Before AA reared its temperate head, some unfortunate boozers may have been subjected to her Quinine Cure for Drunkenness. This antidote was made from pulverized Peruvian bark, soaked in a pint of diluted alcohol. The mixture was strained, evaporated down to a half-pint then fed by the teaspoonful every three hours until the sufferer was cured. "Seven days, it is said, will cure average cases, though some require a whole month."

Pass the Alka-Seltzer.



Lectures on living

By SUE GRECO
Staff Writer

Homosexuality, aggression, psychotherapy and children's rights are just a few of the controversial issues discussed in every-day living today; however, people discuss such topics knowing little or nothing about them.

Critical Issues in Psychology, a course taught by Angie Fast, a psychology and sociology instructor, helps students to become better acquainted with these and other issues.

Mrs. Fast said she thinks people can get more out of life if they know of these things and are aware of them.

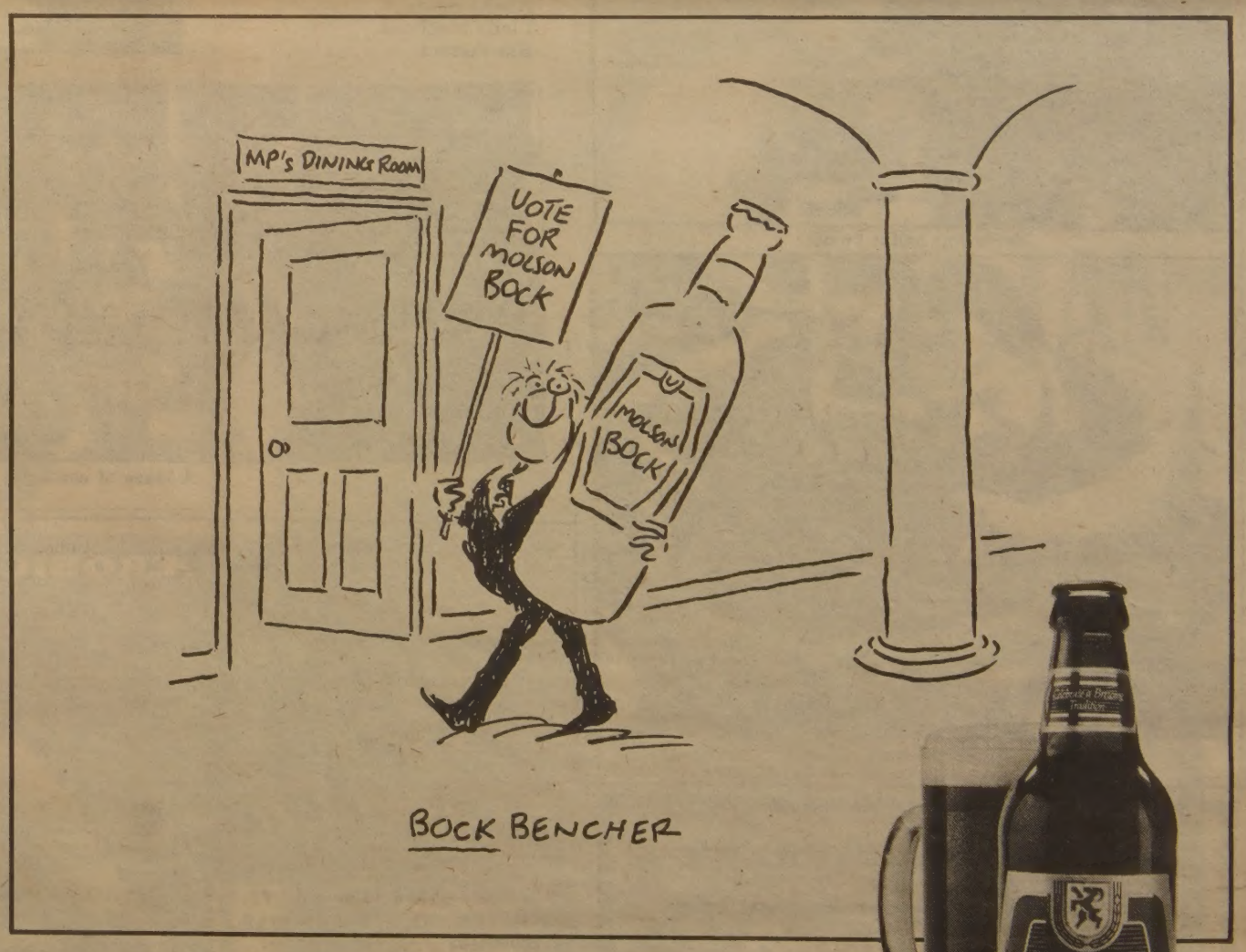
She said it is the kind of course that depends on student participation. If the students do not come, there will not be much of a class — it is a seminar class and student participation is needed.

The course was designed last year by Bruce Tallen, a psychology instructor, for students with little or no background in psychology.

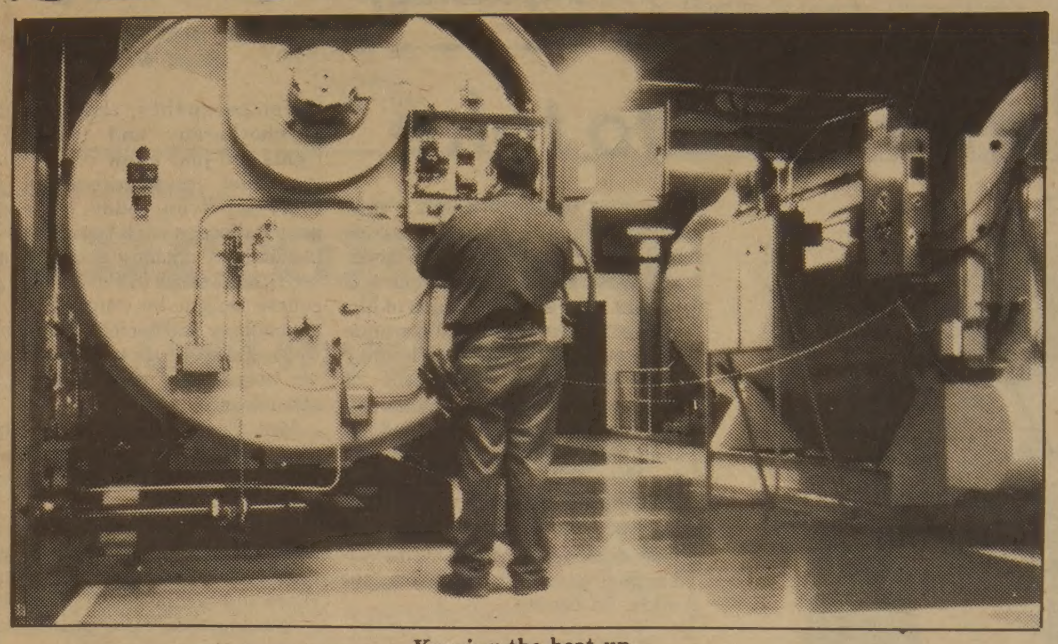
Mrs. Fast said the textbook, Taking Sides: Clashing Views on Psychological Issues, is the basis for discussion. There are two articles for each topic, one pro and the other con.

"It's working well, students are enjoying it and there is a nice variety of interest in the class from all programs."

This is Mrs. Fast's fourth year teaching at the college. She was born in Holland and came to Canada, settling in a city close to Montreal when she was 12. She lived there for four years and moved to Niagara-on-the-Lake where she has lived since.



SPOTLIGHT



Keeping the heat up

Checking fuse box

Soldering ballot boxes

On Maintenance department

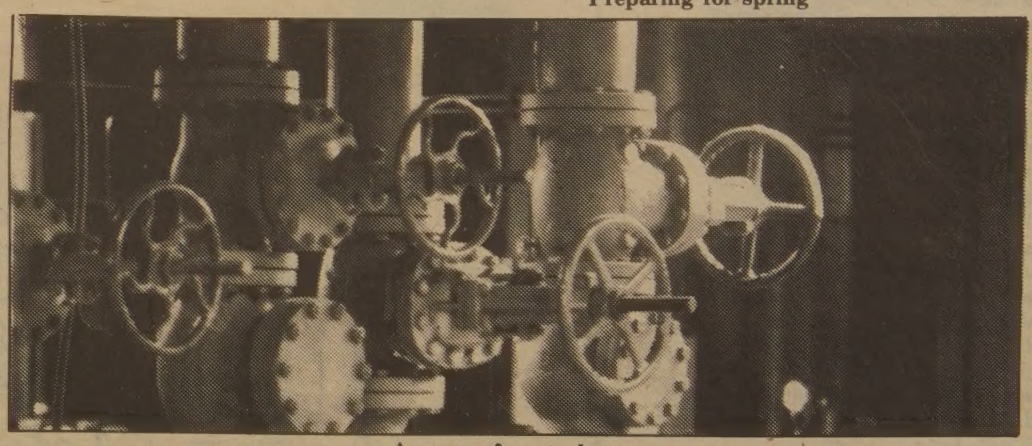
Under the supervision of Jack Spittle, director of property and plants services, the maintenance department helps to keep the college running smoothly.

Cafeteria maintenance, cleaning, boiler rooms, electrical sub-stations and parking are just some of the areas 18 workers and a varying number of contract workers look after.

Photos by

Renata Dinnocenzo
Russ Duhaime
Aletha Jones
Linda MacLeod
Bill Potrecz

Preparing for spring



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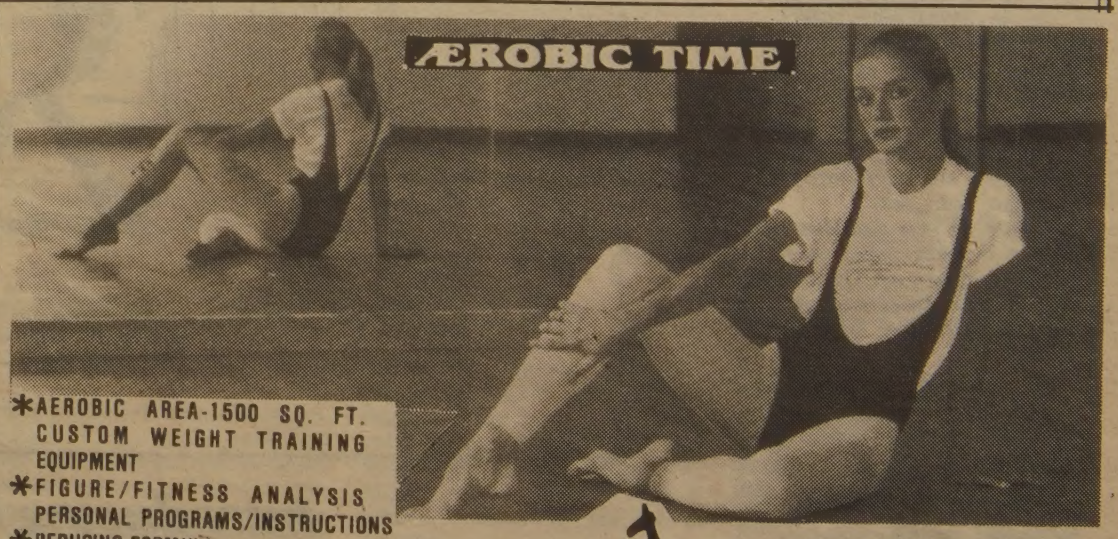

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New computers in Merritt building late Christmas gift to students

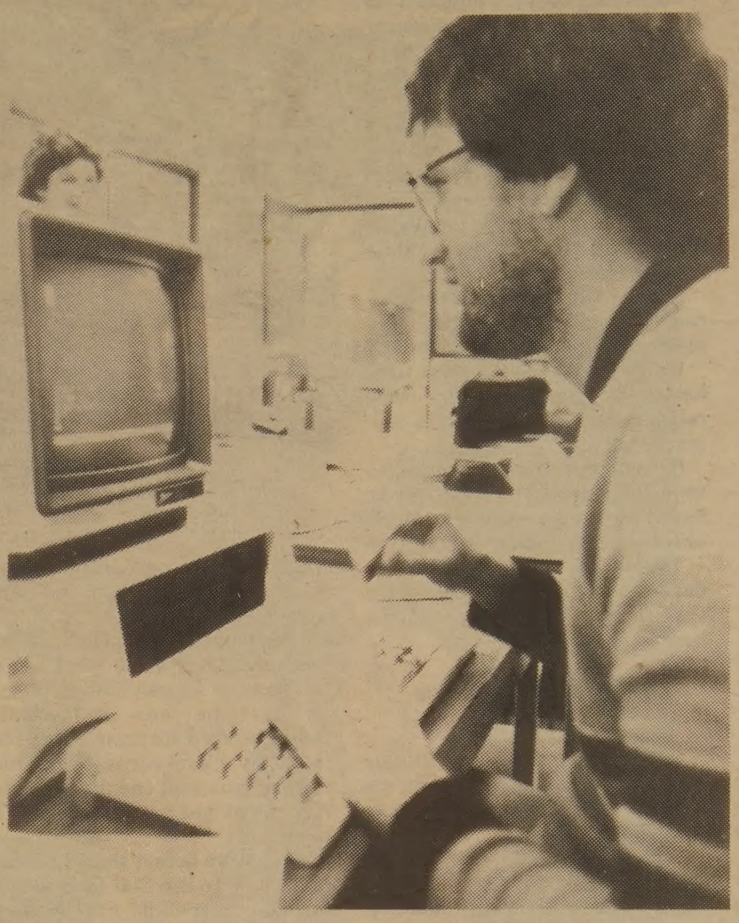
Forty computers were installed in the School of Business giving students there a late Christmas present when they returned in January.

The computers, located on the second floor of the merritt building, consist of 15 IBM personal computers and 25 Radio Shack TRS80 model 4 computers.

The Radio Shack computers were purchased because "they are cheaper yet their performance is just as good as any other computer," Dave Abraham, co-ordinator of statistics and computer math, said.

"Probably the best performance for price value in microcomputers," he said.

The IBM computer is "the most widely used microcomputer in the business world," Tom Honey, data processing instructor, said.



Third-year computer student Don Kretz takes advantage of the time given to him to work on an IBM personal computer. The computer was one of 40 the School of Business purchased before Christmas. (Photo by Pauline King)

MORE FAMILIAR

"It allows data processing students to become familiar with the capabilities and limitations of the small business computer as opposed to the larger type they have been working on."

The cost of the Radio Shack computers was about $60,000.

Since the college is an educational institute and because of a quantity discount, each computer cost about $2,180 — less from the market price of $2,999.

The IBMs also cost about $60,000.

Besides the Radio Shack computers being less expensive yet high in performance, they were purchased because of their software.

Mr. Abraham said, "They have a wide variety of software that is dedicated to the machines and supported by Radio Shack at reasonable prices."

SPECIALTY INSTRUCTOR

The IBM computers have a specialty instruction — primarily for the teacher who learns the specialty.

The IBM computers also have three printers which allow data to be printed and used right away.

"It allows us to get printed copies without putting a printer on each one," Mr. Honey said.

The Radio Shack computers are used in some of the basic literacy courses but are also used in an open-lab concept.

Because the IBM is so portable, they are not allowed to be used unless an instructor is present.

March 17,18 dates set for Hort Open House

Floral designs, patio construction, pool areas and plants in every nook and cranny will be the feature attractions at Niagara College's horticultural Open House March 17 and 18.

The Horticulture Centre's two-day Open House in St. Catharines will run from 9.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. on both days and will attract 3,500 to 4,000 people, Peter Mansfield, program co-ordinator, said.

"It's a tremendous learning experience for the students," he said. "Everybody's interested in horticulture because most people have gardens. It also keeps us in the eye of the industry."

Last year was the first year since 1969 that the Horticulture Centre has not held an Open House. Extra classrooms and a library were being built. "With all the people coming to see the displays, it would have been impossible," Mr. Mansfield said.

In recent years, the Open House has included a trade fair across the street at Laura Secord High School. It was dropped this year due to the students' lack of experience with the open house concept. The trade fair will be reinstated next year.

Area horticulture societies such as the Orchid and Bonsai Society will be present at the event. "Industries actively participate by putting plant materials at our disposal," Mr. Mansfield said. "It's also an old home week for past graduates."

The profits from the plant sale are usually "quite considerable." The money goes toward the purchase of specialized equipment, program materials and the New York field trip in September.

A social hour during the Open House will be held for the Board of Governors, members of the advisory committee and selected members of government and industry who have assisted with the program.

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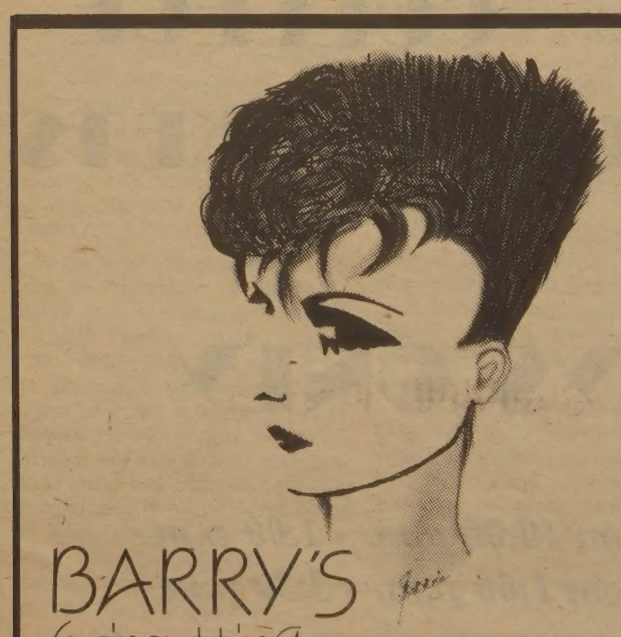

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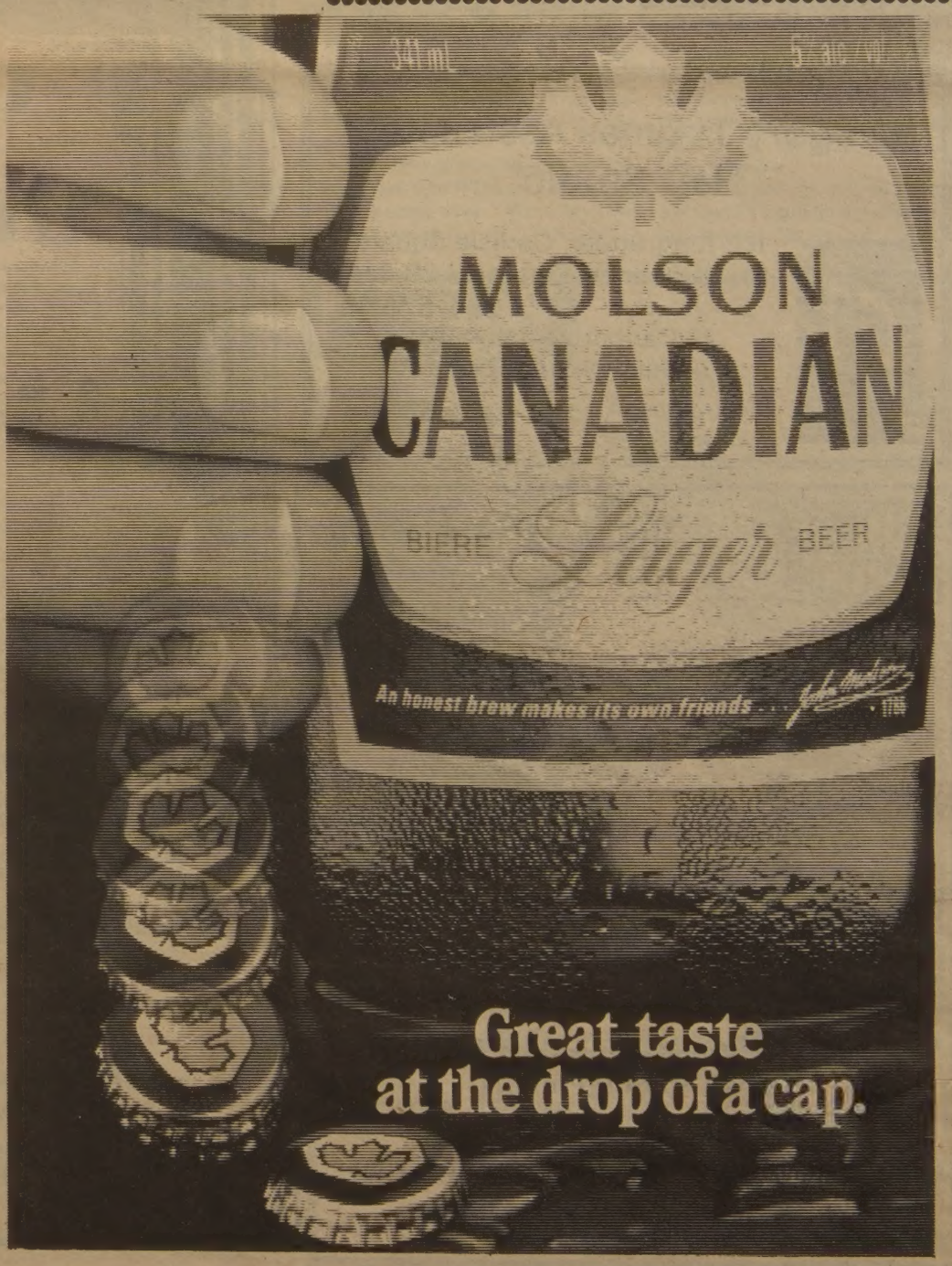

Carnival in 30th year, attracts thousands

By RUSS DUHAIME
Staff Writer

QUEBEC — A brisk wind blows through the city, biting at the faces of the hundreds of thousands of visitors to the Quebec winter carnival. The beautiful old city is bustling with people bundled up to protect them from the cold. Rosy faces are not entirely the result of the frosty weather but partially due to the wine skins, bottles and hollowed-out canes they carry.

Quebec City, majestically overlooking the St. Lawrence River, is the backdrop for Canada's biggest and best winter carnival. People from all over Canada pour into Quebec for a taste of the excitement that accompanies the festival.

The carnival, which is in its 30th year, offers fun for all ages. For the younger crowd there are special parties with clowns and music. Most activities, however, are geared toward adults. Almost every bar and hall in Quebec has some sort of party for every night of the week-long carnival.

CASTLE IMPRESSIVE

One of the most impressive sights is the snow castle. Located across from the Quebec Parliament building, the castle stands 58 feet high, 164 feet long and 71 feet deep. Built over a wooden structure, the castle is the official residence of Bonhomme Carnival (a snowman who is the carnival mascot). Surrounding the castle are a number of snow sculptures carved by artists from various countries.

The carnival is Quebec's third largest industry, generating more than $20 million for the city in 1983. More than 1.5 million people travelled from all over Canada to participate in last year's carnival.

On the final night of the carnival people abandoned the bars to watch the carnival parade. They lined up 20 deep along the route to catch a glimpse of the spectacular floats as they rolled past.

Anxious to see Bonhomme Carnival leading the parade, people perched themselves atop sign posts, traffic lights and telephone poles to get a better view.

As the parade drew to an end the sky was lit with colors from a tremendous fireworks display. People gradually drifted back to the bars and halls to continue the partying for the rest of the night.

Sunday morning a veil of fog settled over the city like the final curtain in a play, indicating the end of the excitement and sending a hush over the city that only a few hours ago was alive with music,song and laughter.

Editors meet

Sixty-five to 70 publishers and editors from across south-western Ontario have been invited to attend an editors' conference Feb. 23 at Niagara College.

"The purpose is to give the editors a close-up look at the program since many will be employing our graduates," Austin Jelbert, co-ordinator of journalism, said.

The editors will be from newspapers in an area bounded by Niagara Falls to Hamilton, St. Thomas to Woodstock, south of Highway 401.

Berai to retire, reminisces

By ALETHA JONES
Staff Writer

LOUIS BERAI

Forty bright-eyed, hippie-style students sat on floors wherever they could find a classroom back in 1971 when Louis Berai first came to Niagara College.

"I came with a briefcase and a cardtable was my office, until this department was ready in term two," he said, smiling as he leaned back in his chair in a minuscule office filled from floor to ceiling with bulging folders.

"I will leave with the same briefcase, but filled with beautiful memories and new experiences."

Under a doctor's care due to ill health, Mr. Berai asked for early retirement at the end of his contract year.

He did not want to retire so soon but he needs a year free to regain his health because he "feels burnt out and unable to do the job I was trained for as fashion designer and master of design for the fashion arts department here."

Future plans

"My next plateau will be developing my tapestry forms, which I've been doing all along as a hobby."

A member of Canadian Couture he has been in the fashion world since June, 1950. After graduating from a college in New York he opened his own business as a fashion consultant.

He said Marie Lynch, program co-ordinator of fashion arts, asked him to help her set up a fashion program at the college and came to Niagara College as an instructor.

The name Louis Berai is a registered trade name. Mr. Berai's full name is Louis Gilbert Aiken. In 1944 he was in Ostend, Belgium, as a dispatch rider for the army signal corps, one of his companions said the name Louis Aiken was not a good designer's name.

They wore berets then, he said, so decided to use that for a name, but how to spell it? Finally they hit on the idea of taking the "ber" from his middle name and "Ai" from his last name to make Berai.

He has travelled halfway around the world and lived in many places. At one time, after coming here to the college, he wanted to go to Japan as part of a field placement, to study the "fantastic" computers used in the design industry. "I was ready but they were shortsighted."

He doesn't like the "bureauocracy, the smothering" at Niagara College, he said.

Another bone of contention is time-tabling. "Sports and electives are blocked in first and the courses must work around those blocks," he said. "Thus sometimes students must wait too long between classes."

He doesn't want a "retirement evening". "I wouldn't come," he said. "If they want to, they can do one of these scholarship things for students."

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ENTERTAINMENT

Michael Fawkes as Dysart, the psychiatrist in Equus, stands surrounded by students portraying horses. The masks appear ghostly, symbolizing the haunting questions running through Dysart's mind as he attempts to destroy the fantasy world of a disturbed boy.(Photo by Theresa Gretzinger)

Equus moving, effective play

By THERESA GRETZINGER
Staff Writer

It was a shocking, passionate, and effectively staged play about the tragedy behind a young boy and his love for horses. Equus, the Theatre Centre's production staged last week, focused on the why behind the true tragedy of his plight.

Props were minimal with an accent on thoughts of the play rather than the acting. Even so, Michael Fawkes, guest professional actor who portrayed Martin Dysart, a psychiatrist, was powerful in his interpretation of the role. He was vibrant in his narrations, realistic in his investigations into a boy's tortured psyche, sympathetic in his pain and above all, he was identifiable.

Mr. Fawkes became every member of the audience as he took on the demanding role of a psychiatrist who has reached a "professional menopause" and searched for answers to thought-provoking questions like What is Normal?

WELL-PLANNED

Costumes were well-planned and simple; casual outfits corresponded to characters. Horses wore colored body tights while horse heads were metal frames that gave the effect of an apparition, symbolizing the spirit of Equus in all horses. Equus is the Latin word for horse and becomes the name of the "god"-horse Alan, the emotionally-disturbed boy, worships.

EFFECTIVE LIGHTING

The drama on the pseudo-marble stage was heightened through effective lighting. Direct lighting from overhead created dramatic shadows upon the faces of Dysart and Alan that increased emotion emitted from the stage.

Screens on four angles could be viewed by the audience. Scenes of the crucifixion of Christ, a demon on a horse's back, and sweating horses running free maximized symbolism already strong in the play.

Perhaps the most brilliantly directed, most disturbing and emotion-inducing part of the play was the conclusion...or lack of one. The play suggests an ending to Alan's psychological pain but suggests an ending to a brilliant career of a psychiatrist. Dysart has delved into the very being of a troubled young boy who lives his fantasies but has not managed to extract himself from the shadow world of Alan that questions normalcy. Dysart is a frustrated husband who flips through ancient Greece books fantasizing belonging to that world and never reaches or comes near to reaching his fantasies.

It was through the brilliant directing of Duncan McIntosh, guest director and a member of Shaw Festival, that the play gained spirit beyond the written script.

Echoing screams of agony after the horses have been fatally wounded filled the production area. Sound effects were eerie and added to the overall shock of the play.

Overall, the play was wonderfully executed technically.

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Student eagerly awaits excursion to Quebec

Janice Harwood had set a goal for her future. She wanted to take the bilingual tourism program at Niagara but her knowledge of French was not adequate. After being talked out of moving to Quebec and postponing her studies, Janice took the right initiative.

Janice applied for the Ontario-Quebec exchange program for her third term and next fall she will go to Metane, Quebec, about 125 miles northeast of Quebec city. This small fishing village on the south shore of the St. Lawrence River will give her exposure to a culture different from southern Ontario.

Even though she has studied French for five years, the pretty 18-year-old said, "My main reason is to learn French."

She is looking forward to living on campus at CEGEP, Metane. She will take a six-week French immersion course before her term begins and will be credited in full for her third term.

Janice explained that the money she will receive will come from Niagara College and the college will be reimbursed from the Ontario-Quebec Permanent Commission when receipts are submitted.

JANICE HARWOOD

"As long as the receipts add up, Niagara College will get reimbursed. If they don't add up, I have to pay the difference."

Nicole Vigeant, administrator of French Languages Services, said there is still time for other interested students to apply. The deadline for submitting applications is March 2.

Alumni member wins draw

Bob Aaroe, the first paid alumni member, won the draw for a $60 meal for two at Rinderlins Dining Rooms.

Mr. Aaroe, of Scarborough, graduated in business administration from Niagara College in 1970.

Dr. Anthony Knowles, dean of Technology, drew the name last Monday in the Counselling Department.

Geri Newell, administrative assistant, and Bette Ferguson, director of student services, were at the draw.

Curling team looks ahead

Niagara College's men's and mixed curling teams are gearing for the Western Regional Playdowns in Windsor Feb. 25 and 26.

"We are not sure who we are going to send to Windsor," Manager Bob Young said. "We will make a decision in the next few days."

The tourney in which Niagara won the mixed event last year, will have five teams entered in it this year: Niagara, Mohawk, Fanshawe, St. Clair and Lambton from Sarnia.

"We would have liked to enter a women's team in the playdowns but we are not strong enough,"

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SPORTS

Hockey Knights on verge of clinching 2nd place

Goaltender Greg Yari moves a split second late as Pat Murry of the Purple Eagles scores in the top left hand corner. The Knights went on to win their sixth game in a row 11-6.

(Photo by Bill Potrecz)

By BILL POTRECZ
Staff Writer

The hockey Knights erupted for seven second-period goals en route to an 11-6 victory over the Niagara University Purple Eagles Feb. 11 at the King Street Ice Palace.

The victory was the sixth straight for the Knights and improved their record to 11-2, leaving them one point shy of clinching second place behind St. Bonaventure.

The Knights were led by Mike Wagner and Chris Barry who each potted a pair of markers.

Dennis Iamarino, Gary Kukoly, Jeff Read, Jim Long, Andy Oosterhout and Al Cousineau netted singles.

After a fairly even first period in which the Knights came out on top 3-2, they came out in the second period and took the play to the Purple Eagles and put the game on ice.

"It was not a good game for us as we did not play our positions," coach Fred Bassi said. "We allowed the Purple Eagles to play their unorganized style of play."

The Knights took the lead for good when, less than a minute later, Chris Barry took what looked like a harmless shot from just inside the blueline. The puck found its way through a labyrinth of players in front of the net and the Knights never looked back.

Mr. Bassi said it was the Knights' strategy to come out early and establish a physical game — even if they had to take a few penalties. "Our intention was to hit everything in sight the first few minutes and not let them push us around."

Goaltender Yari didn't have one of his better nights as he surrendered the six goals on just 19 shots. "It was not Greg's night as he didn't seem to be sharp," Mr. Bassi said. "We need solid goaltending for the playoffs."

3 SOLID LINES

Another aspect of the team which pleased Mr. Bassi is the emergence of three solid lines which balance the scoring. "When all three lines are playing well, it makes coaching an easy job."

CHIPPY CONTEST

The game was a chippy contest with the Knights taking 45 minutes in penalties while the Purple Eagles spent 35 minutes in the sin bin.

The Purple Eagles looked as if they might give the Knights a tough time as they capitalized on two power-play chances in the first period while the Knights went 0-2 with the man advantage.

The Purple Eagles also opened the second period strong as Pat Murry scored their third power-play goal as he unloaded a hard slapshot that goaltender Greg Yari couldn't corral.

Jamie Coring, who also plays for the Welland Jr. B Cougars, may suit up for the remaining games depending on his commitment to the Cougars. "Jamie adds a new dimension to our team and I would like to have him in the playoffs," Mr. Bassi said.

The Knights are now looking ahead to the playoffs and it appears as if Buffalo State, the host team this year, will be the Knights first-round opponent. "It puts us in a tough position having to go into their rink because they will be pumped up and ready for us," Mr. Bassi said.

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7:00 p.m. International College Hockey Niagara College vs. University of Rochester - with John Killip, Ed Zanetti and Dave Abrahams.

Thursday, March 1
7:00 p.m. Repeat - Call Niagara - Taxation '83 (originally cablecast Feb. 9, 1984)

Sunday, March 4
11:00 a.m. Repeat

Team, athlete of week

Tuing Bui won the men's singles title in the table tennis for the second consecutive year at the 1984 championship tournament held at St. Lawrence College in Cornwall.

The 20-year-old Peterborough, Ont., native registered an 8-0 record in the men's singles event after going unbeaten for Sir Sandford Fleming in the team championship.

Mohawk Mountaineers captured the team title and two individual events at the 1984 Archery Championship held at Northern College in Haileybury.

Barry Thoson and Tom Janeck's gold medal-winning performances in the men's freestyle and men's limited events contributed to the Mountaineers' 1,718-point total in the team championship.

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Knights now 10-2 after close OT win

By MURRAY STEWART
Staff Writer

The Niagara Knights women's basketball team continued their quest for first place in the OCAA standings as they defeated Mohawk College Feb. 9 in a closely played overtime period which saw the knights come out on top 72-70.

The Knights, who are now 10-2 and one game out of first place outworked the Mohawk team in the first half moving the ball well with good up court pressure. The mountaineers were forced into a defensive game as Niagara kept pressure on their defence with good passing and well executed plays.

Mohawk threw the ball away several times; they were costly turnovers as the Knights quickly capitalized on them.

The Niagara defence kept the Mountaineers from getting many chances in the first half and the only opportunities which did arise for the Mountaineers were when Niagara miscued and gave away the ball.

Good first-half performances from Gail Graveline, who drove well for the net scoring key points, and Rose DiMarco, who set good passing plays helped the Knights hold a 10-point lead through most of the half.

LEAD AT HALF

The Knights had an easy time with the Mohawk defence in the first half, and that combined with good defence and control of the boards gave them a 40-30 lead at the half.

Coldness struck the Knights in the second half. Niagara couldn't get in the game and were held from the scoreboard for the first four minutes as the Mohawk team capitalized and closed the gap to four points before the Knights found an opportunity to score.

The tough time continued for the Knights as the Mountaineers started hitting from outside, and worked well under Niagara's basket.

Niagara playing a shabby game, held their lead till the 11-minute mark when Mohawk, who were gaining momentum, tied the game 50-50.

Seconds later the Mountaineers took the lead for the first time on a foul shot which moved them ahead one point.

Mohawk were getting a good percentage of rebounds away from Niagara's shaky defence and now had all the momentum going their way as the Knights were missing their shots and only had scored 10 points in the first 12 minutes of the second half.

Niagara continued to have trouble in the Mohawk end, failing to score when given the opportunity.

MOHAWK AHEAD

Mohawk had gained a 58-50 lead with only five minutes remaining in the game, and the play seemed to be going in their favor.

The Knights ended their drought and started scoring, slowly regaining their composure. They started hitting their shots and gaining some ground on the Mohawk team.

Niagara were still over passing, but their defence held off the Mohawk attack allowing Niagara to come within three points late in the second half.

The final two minutes of play showed both teams missing and in the final 30 seconds Niagara sank a foul shot to bring them within two points.

Another costly foul by the Mohawk team sent Nancy Mather to the foul line. She sunk both shots and tied the game with 12 seconds remaining in the game, sending the two teams into an overtime period.

Niagara came out strong, as they did in the first half, for the overtime and quickly built up a five-point lead.

Mohawk kept pushing and both teams struggled for the victory as the Knights hung on to win the important game staying in contention for first place in the OCAA standings.

Schedule

Men's Basketball
Wed. Feb. 22 — Niagara at George Brown
Saturday, Feb. 25 — St. Lawrence at Niagara

NIAGARA
SPORTS

Alex Cattrysse and several Sheridan defenders look on intently as Mark Ford dumps in an easy two points en route to a victory over the Bruins in a recent game. (Photo by Don Ross)

Mohawk nips men's Knights 86-83

The Men's Basketball Knights lost a disappointing game to Mohawk College as they were nipped 86-83 in the closing moments of the game played here at Niagara Feb. 9.

In the fast and aggressive game the Knights stayed with the Mohawk team but were not connecting with their shots.

Quick passing by the Mountaineers allowed them to manoeuvre around the Knights' defence as they dominated early in the game.

Mohawk built up a 12-point lead at different times during the game but the Knights fought back to within five points with excellent efforts from Mark Ford and Greg Thiesson.

Mohawk's shooting was accurate, and costly turnovers allowed them to hold onto a five-point lead as the half finished with the Mountaineers leading 43-39.

Coach Paul Deeton said, "The guys didn't really handle the ball well, and they had a lot of turnovers. We needed stronger play from the guards.

Alex Cattrysse led a strong Knights' attack as they played more intensely during the second half, tying the game early and staying with the Mohawk team. John Mataya pulled the Knights even with a good second effort giving Niagara some needed momentum.

The Mountaineers received three technical fouls and Alex Cattrysse and Greg Thiesson went to the line shooting well and giving the Knights a lead for the first time in the game.

With excellent offence and well executed plays the knights gained a 10-point lead seven minutes into the second half.

The fast-paced game became more physical with plenty of body contact. Sturdy defence and good rebounding helped Niagara handle the aggressive Mohawk team.

Mohawk made a comeback and narrowed the margin to one point. Both teams traded baskets and both held one-point advantages during the final five minutes of play. The final minute of the game was to prove disappointing for the Knights, as they had played with the Mountaineers throughout the second half but were edged out on a foul call.

Niagara was down by one point and made an excellent play towards the net but was stopped short by the Mohawk defence with only 13 seconds left in the game.

A foul call sent a Mohawk team member to the line only to see him sink both shots which gave the Mountaineers the victory.

Mr. Deeton commented on the Knights' problems in the back court. "The same thing happened at Centennial; we need to take charge in the back court then our game will improve."

Lopsided win

Knights defeat Cambrian 90-72

The Niagara Knights Men's basketball team defeated Cambrian Colts 90-72 in a lopsided game played Feb. 11 at Sudbury College.

"The kids played well," coach Paul Deeton said. "It was a good outing for them considering the seven-hour bus trip."

The Knights, who are now 12-8 and in sixth place in the OCAA standings, easily handled the Cambrian team with good defence throughout the entire match.

Strong performances from Paul Weller, who netted 23 points and Greg Theisson, who shot for 18 helped to give the Knights their solid lead during the first and second halfs.

The Colts' shooting was accurate in the first half, but the Knights controlled the play and held an 11-point lead at the half 45-34.

The Knights stayed away from foul trouble, not giving the Cambrian team any unnecessary chances and continued to dominate making use of the bench.

Alex Cattrysse had a fine performance scoring 16 points helping the Knights open up a wide margin on the Colts.

The Knights, who were in full control of the game, used the strong rebounding of John Mataya and Greg Theisson to control the boards both defensively and offensively.

"I had Paul Weller handling the points and it worked out well; the team put in a good solid performance," Mr. Deeton said.

The Knights have a solid hold on sixth place and are only three games out of second; they hope to do well against the upcoming opposition.

"The next few games are very important to us, I hope we can do well," Mr. Deeton said.

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Tom cat faces charges in family court for hampering hamsters' happiness

By ALETHA JONES
Staff Writer

FORT ERIE — The news greeted me as I arrived home one evening about two weeks ago.

"The cat got four of Tony's hamsters," said Sean, my youngest.

I was immediately on the defensive. Spooky, my big, yellow-eyed, handsome black tom is barely tolerated by my two sons. Every time my back is turned Sean throws Spooky out of doors.

"Are you sure it was the cat?" I asked. "Did you see him get them?"

"No, but four baby hamsters are missing and Tony thinks the cat got them," Sean said.

Tony is my other son and he keeps hamsters. He started with two about four months ago, but the count was up to 10 the last time I asked. There would have been 11 but one male died.

Escape?

Considering that the little twerps, none of them any bigger than a cotton ball, have escaped from the cage a dozen times since they grew fur I thought it was pretty nasty of Tony to blame the cat for eating them. They could be scampering around behind the walls this very minute. Anyway

Spooky: Who, me?

Spooky, a well-brought up cat, used to nothing but Puss-N-Boots, wouldn't stoop to eating hamsters.

No, but Spooky is very playful, a traitorous thought came to me. One swipe of his great paw would frighten any little hamster into a heart attack.

Days passed and every time Tony came home from work he asked if the hamsters were found. He continued to search, laying traps all over the house. Not mouse traps, but harmless ones, baited with hamster food, trying to entice them back home.

One day when I got home there was good news awaiting me. One of the baby hamsters had been found.

"Tony lifted the lid of the old pot and the hamster was in the pot," Sean said.

The little animal had climbed up the bedspread and fallen into the pot that tony had baited with food. Once in the pot it couldn't get out. So there was one found and three to go.

Last night as Sean and I were sitting at the dining room table doing homework, Sean thought for an instant he saw something white go across the floor. We passed it off as an abberation, but later when I went in to the living room to turn on the television, I saw out of the corner of my eye something that looked like a piece of cotton wool being blown across the floor. As it disappeared under the closet door, enlightenment dawned. "The hamster," I yelled.

Both Sean and Tony ran into the living room, but although they carefully searched the closet, not hide nor hair of a hamster was found.

Playing

This morning I was in the bathroom getting ready for school, when I heard Spooky playing with something under my bed. I thought he was playing with his ball but, then through the partly open door, something white ran along the floor with Spooky after it. For a split second I thought nothing of it, but then...I dived just as Spooky pounced, I grabbed the little hamster as he rolled over onto his back with mouth open and teeth bared, ready to die fighting.

Vindicate

Triumphantly I carried it to Tony's room.

Tony is happy. He is confident the other three will be found. I'm happy because Spooky is vindicated.

But Sean still throws Spooky out of doors as soon as my back is turned.

Alcock

From page 1

War is not the way to settle the differences among nations. "War is not very profitable. Economically, it is not any better than slavery 100 years ago." The world is ready for the paradigm shift.

"Our own prime minister is showing perseverance, guts, and leadership." Prime Minister Trudeau is saying, "I care. I care enough to try to nudge the nations."

The world needs permanent peace-keeping zones. East and West Germany, and Poland should set up a regional peace-keeping force. International law is needed to support the peace-keeping efforts.

Dr. Alcock said the superpowers are "playing chicken." It is a myth that the communists will take over the capitalists and that the capitalists will take the communists over.

The two superpowers build up their arms to deter one another. This is the old way of thinking — the Second World War mentality. It is a myth, the mentality of wanting to catch up in the balance of power.

The superpowers are afraid of each other.

People should "start caring about a world of beauty," and not destruction, Dr. Alcock said.

The first step is trust, the second is to remove the weapons by cutting back or removing them altogether, and the third is to make the world better by securing international law. Police forces are needed to enforce the law in cities and countries; the world needs a law to follow so that it will not be in a state of anarchy.

Lofty position

Working at CN Tower

The CN Tower, a major tourist attraction in Toronto, is expanding to include a convention centre, a CN Hotel and an office tower, Tom McDonald, supervisor of the hostessing department, told co-op tourism students on Feb. 9.

Due to open in six months to a year, the new attractions will make more jobs available in the tourism field, Mr. McDonald said. Tourism students should be ready to apply for them after graduation.

A film entitled To the Top displaying the construction of the world's tallest free-standing structure was shown. Mr. McDonald said that in 1973 the film's makers wanted something different to show visitors — something they would remember. To achieve this, they followed construction "from the ground up."

While working at the tower, the student may encounter some difficulties with customers. The most obvious one is the fear of heights. He spoke of a hostess who helped a woman overcome this fear through concern and understanding.

TOM MCDONALD

"A tourist attraction cannot function without its employees being great," Mr. McDonald said. Uniforms should be crisp and clean and the employees' appearance must be neat.

Before the interview the student should prepare a list of questions he may be asked. This will enable him to answer questions without hesitation and show that he will be responsive out on the floor.

SOME ANGER

Another problem is angry customers. "People sometimes say we charge too much ($4). However, other attractions charge the same amount or even more," Mr. McDonald said. The employee should remain calm and listen to the customer. Establish a rapport with him and say you are sorry — even if it is not your fault.

When sickness or an accident occurs, Mr. McDonald advises, "never comment and stay neutral." Help or medical attention should be called and the supervisor notified.

FAKE THEIR WAY

Some people are able to fake their way through an interview by being someone they are not. This may get them hired, but they will not be able to keep it up on the job, Mr. McDonald said. "Be yourself" is the best policy for doing well in an interview.

The interviewee should be full of energy by conveying the message "I want this job."